



Docket No.: FUT-0104
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Masaaki Nagatsu

Application No.: 10/593,325

Confirmation No.: 8431

Filed: September 18, 2006

Art Unit: N/A

For: **MICROWAVE PLASMA STERILIZING
METHOD AND DEVICE**

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

- A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98
- excluding a copy of U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication as waived by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 or has entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003 (1276 OG 55).

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

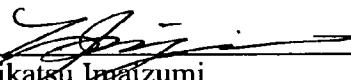


Concise Explanation of Relevancy of the Document

- Document having neither English translation nor English abstract relates to the subject matter of the above-identified application. English translation of the document is not readily available; however, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 C.F.R. §1.98 and MPEP §609).
- This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No fee is required (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)). The Patent Office is NOT AUTHORIZED to charge deposit account 18-0013 under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(c)(2) and 1.17(p). However, ONLY IF a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge deposit account 18-0013 in the amount of \$180.00 for payment of the fee under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(c)(2) and 1.17(p).
- Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0013 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

Dated: June 26, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 
 Toshikatsu Imaizumi
 Registration No.: L0046 (Limited Recognition)
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 Correspondence Customer Number: 23353
 Attorney for Applicant

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /JK/



ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08A/B (09/06)

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|------------------------------|---|----|---|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449/PTO | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| | | | | Application Number | 10/593,325 |
| | | | | Filing Date | September 18, 2006 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Masaaki Nagatsu |
| | | | | Art Unit | Not Yet Assigned |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | FUT-0104 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| BH | WO00/45861-A | | 08-10-2000 | Robert Bosch GMBH | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | | | T ² |
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|--------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| Examiner Signature | /John Kim/ | Date Considered | 07/09/2009 |
|--------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|

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